



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Dana J. Boente

Eastern District of Louisiana

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CONTACT: ANNA CHRISTMAN
PHONE: (504) 680-3171
FAX: (504) 589-4978

NEW ORLEANS MAN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS FOR FILING FALSE TAX RETURNS AND WIRE FRAUD

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA - DARVELL HALL, age 32, of New Orleans, Louisiana, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Sarah Vance to seven (7) years for making false claims to an agency of the United States and Wire Fraud, announced United States Attorney Dana Boente. In addition to the term of imprisonment, Judge Vance ordered **HALL** to pay full restitution in the amount of \$317,389. **HALL** was also ordered to pay a \$200.00 special assessment fee.

According to court documents, **HALL** prepared, and caused to be prepared, taxes for individuals located throughout the New Orleans metropolitan area without their knowledge or authorization. To do this, **HALL** obtained personal information, including the name, date of birth, and Social Security Number, of individuals without their knowledge or permission, and he used this information to file unauthorized tax returns in the names of these individuals. Many of these individuals were either minors or incarcerated at the time the tax returns were filed. The individuals did not know **HALL** and did not authorize **HALL** to prepare or file a tax return using their name or on their behalf. **HALL** prepared and filed with the Internal Revenue Service, approximately forty-eight (48) United States Individual Tax Returns from March 2009 through in or about March 2011 resulting in an attempted loss to the Government of approximately \$317,389. When preparing those forty-eight (48) tax returns, **HALL** included a variety of false statements and information designed to qualify the returns for various credits and refunds. **HALL** arranged to have the refunds electronically deposited into bank accounts under his control. He neither informed the individuals for whom he was filing tax returns that he was filing such returns, nor shared any of the refund with the individuals.

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations Division. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jordan Ginsberg.

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